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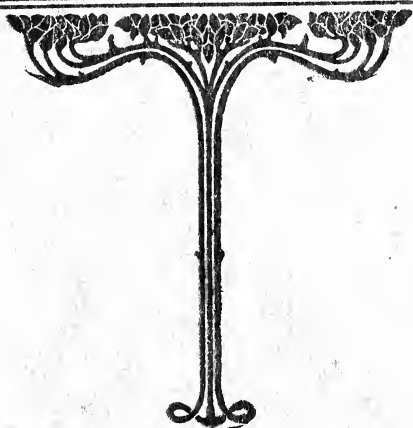
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THOS. J. MURPHY

Dahlia Specialist

**MURPHY'S
DAHLIA COLLEGE**



1926 Catalog



THOS. J. MURPHY

15a Proctor Street
PEABODY, MASS.

Telephone 112-W





THOMAS J. MURPHY

Discoverer of diseased spots, the foremost discovery ever made in the dahlia game, and King of the Whites. Also originator of the world's best varieties: Lily Grand, Ben Wilson, World's Best White, Boston White, Snow Queen, White King, Queen of Whites, White Court, Geo. S. Harvey, Mary Curtin, Sorosis Souvenir, City of Peabody, Harry Sheldon, Jr., Geo. Ray, Amethyst Supreme, Eva Cole, Jim George, M. F. Heaphy, and many more too numerous to mention.

Don't find so much fault with the bulbs you buy until you are sure the fault isn't yours. Which it is very apt to be.

Just a few lines to let you know you should learn the laws of the Dahlia family and get away from the idea that you are the cause of disease in your Dahlia garden by over-feeding or under-feeding or otherwise. You don't seem to wake up to the fact that Nature has framed laws for the Dahlia family as well as the human family, and both must be obeyed; therefore, you couldn't create disease in your garden if you wanted to, simply because Nature hasn't given you that power; but she has given you the power to destroy but not to create. Nature's germs are ever present in your garden, and when any plant contracts disease, burn it. Above all, don't multiply any sick bulbs; that is where you make a grave mistake. Quite a few growers, yes, and many of our best growers, seem to think they diseased their stock by propagation. You are only kidding yourself. You don't know that propagation is Nature's greatest gift, and if you knew enough about the Dahlia to be able to tell a diseased plant and destroy it, and propagate healthy plants only, you would improve your stock over, and over to a healthy standard, fit for any market. I'll say, wake up, and go to sleep right, if you want to be a real Dahlia grower.



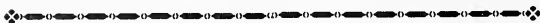


PLANTITIS

Plantitis is very easy to contract, if you are foolish enough to believe any grower that says propagation creates the stunt in your bulbs. They must be ignorant of the real facts or inside mechanism of the laws of the Dahlia family; they belong to the super-human class, or they think they do, which is just as good; they seem to be the only variety of humans that are positive they are always right and never make any mistakes; like the blind man, he was satisfied he saw all there was to be seen, they know all there is to be known, yet they know so little they propagate diseased bulbs, which means every plant diseased. That's enough! No more propagation; it's all wrong. They didn't make any mistake. No, no. Propagation is to blame.

Propagation is Nature's greatest gift to mankind, and it is a shame to have it go into print as a creator of the stunt germ, to cover up the ignorance of any grower. Nature was wrong when she created propagation. She didn't know what she was doing. It's the cause of stunt. That's the final decision of the hybrid super-human, the third-class human. Dahlia growers of both sexes, I'll ask you one and all, where did the stunt come from 20 and 25 years back, when we had more stunts to the square yard than we have now to the square mile, and no propagation; it was a lost art in those days, as far as the dahlia goes, pure and simple. Stunt was created by Nature in the form of a chronic germ pest to mar the perfection of plant life. The habit of Nature seems to be in all cases of life, human or plant, to create pests, such as the aphid, cobweb lice, red spider, corn-borer, cut worm, stunt-germ, and many more, to keep us guessing, thinking, working night and day, wondering why she gets so much pleasure destroying our plants after all our hard labor. Apparently Nature's greatest pleasure seems to be in pestering life of all kinds; yet, on the other hand, when we are about to give up, we find a channel of some kind created to keep our courage up and help make up the loss of said pest. So in the Dahlia. Propagation is the channel created by Nature to multiply our healthy stock and make up our losses.

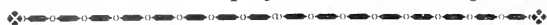
As natural as all this seems to be, I find good growers willing to take Babe Ruth's best bat and knock all kinds of home runs off propagation. In one case the grower said they propagated and the



plants were stunts. That was enough. No more propagation; it strained the bulbs. (Fine hybrid human.) The real trouble was diseased bulbs were propagated. Ignorance 100 per cent always blames the other fellow. Some of the home-run knockers have a hot-house, but they don't use it, only to start their bulbs in. Generally speaking, the dahlia growers seem to be afraid of propagated bulbs almost to a man. The fear is there, or has been there, simply because each and every grower has more or less diseased plants in his garden every season, and it is a mystery they don't and can't account for it. The reason they can't understand is they haven't the knowledge that they can't grow dahlias free from disease. It's an impossibility, yet they don't realize it. Every dahlia, with no exception, matters not who grows it, will produce more or less diseased offspring, because nature's laws are bound to be obeyed. The grower who has this knowledge is watching every season, and dumps all sickly plants. He is not afraid of propagation. He knows his business. He's not bucking nature with a bat. The other fellow is after perfection in his garden. The first hundred years are the worst for him.

Now listen, dahlia growers. I would very much like to settle and show the dahlia world what a weak foundation the propagation knockers have to build their decision on. All have hot-houses, hot or cold frames, or some place to start their bulbs for early orders. Any time after March sets in, they are not going to propagate, they are only starting their bulbs. Well, they start them, and when the shoots or propagating cuttings get a little too high, higher than they intend, they are cut off and thrown away. So, by the first of June, all kinds of cuttings are dumped, hundreds of them by each grower. No strain on the bulbs, because they had to start them for early orders, and on the other hand they didn't put any in the sand, they threw them away. They didn't propagate, they didn't start them with any intention of propagating, so the bulbs couldn't get any strain from early growth (fine alibi), but the grower who starts his bulbs early and puts the cuttings in the sand, his bulbs are all strained. They must be, the propagating knockers say so. They have propagated diseased bulbs and they know all there is to be known about it. How does it sound to the true, normal, deep-thinking dahlia grower, that has the knowledge and can see the open channel of propagation of healthy bulbs created by nature? Rotten.

Now they put up the argument of rest. The dahlia must have six months' rest. They don't want any dahlia that don't have at least five or six months' good rest. Yet they send to Southern California, where they are blooming in January and in some cases left in the ground until planting time in March, April or May, as they see fit, with no rest, buy bulbs and are satisfied. What is it, I ask? Ignorance again, isn't it? Like the chap I had the pleasure



of meeting last season. He had a purple and white dahlia and it changed to white. No, he didn't make any mistake; they change colors. So he put the white clump in a box of purple bulbs, and it came back purple and white. He works for Uncle Sam as a botanist or bugologist, and he hasn't lost his job yet.

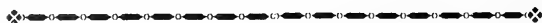
A few years back, at a meeting of the Dahlia Society of New England, we had a real hybrid, the best I ever met, in a class by himself. After quite a little talk on disease, he took the floor and the air turned to steam. In a minute Nature's germs were gone. He made little of any germ; he grew up on a farm of acres, so he said, and everything that grew on the farm was free from disease. He was married and had six kids; wife, kids and himself were never sick; cattle on the farm never sick; because everybody and everything were given the right food. He had it on any 18-karat jazz axe that I ever had the pleasure of meeting. The missing link in the chain of perfection the world has been gunning for two thousand years. Eternal sameness, life everlasting, amen, or 8 men; and the funny part of it all was he looked and was built like a man, wore clothes like one. You all remember Barnum had a freak he called Barnum's "What-is-it." He was built like a man also; the only difference was his face was on wrong. It's a great dahlia world if you don't propagate.

THE REAL CAUSE OF DAHLIA AND ALL OUR TROUBLES.

When Nature put the unfinished human being on No Man's Land, she must have had a reason all her own, if her ear and eye-sight is good. She certainly has a lot of fun. Every minute war of some kind is on. People are never satisfied, always worrying, fighting, backbiting, undermining, ready at all times to make life miserable for the world at large, and nobody seems able to correct it. We have a lot of smart, bright men in the world, yet, as smart as they are, no man has been born who is able to pen a statement, a contract or treaty on paper that will stand the acid test. It don't amount to a piece of toilet paper, nor half as handy. May I ask why no man can perfect it? Here you have it. We are simply nature's human stew, continually stirred to the point of corruption, nonsense and war by the locomotion of the earth as it revolves around the sun. Somebody's ball-bearing plaything, with two strikes and four fouls on us when born. Come in—you're out.

Have I or have I not called the turn, awoke you up from your long, dizzy sleep. Time will tell.

The time is now ripe and we should look at home



for a new floor manager. All this unnecessary trouble can and must be stopped. All any man needs is principle, a little judgment and a full, broad back that will carry at least one tub of sand, which in turn holds your feet nearer to the ground more solid and firmer. The clothes-pin fever has disappeared. You are now threatened with honesty that will manifest itself in your thorax, which is three inches south of Adam's dried apple. We won't say anything about the full dinner-pail, because the handle is knock-kneed (pickled or plain, take your choice). At all our shows we have had the best managers we could find, yet the wires were crossed and they proved to be real dahlia stews through lack of system. A few years back one grower found his exhibit moved out among the cabbage and squash, and I dare say friction is still there. Fine floor manager and system. At another show I was one of the judges, and when we tried to find the classes to be judged, it proved to be one of the best dahlia stews to date, all caused by bum system. Again the wires got crossed and I was kicked around. The miscellaneous system didn't miss me this time; it landed in my corner. I had notified the manager, my bottles were filled, my name on the table. To my surprise, when I landed I saw a so-called brother member setting up on my table. Knowing what I do know from actual experience, and getting sick and tired of going through this unnecessary trouble every year, I plainly saw it was up to me to call the turn. I asked the man in power who was to blame, why he gave my table to another. Very chesty he said he was the floor manager with full power. In a very short time his power faded. He took the air. We have had some great floor managers. Some have been champion head cooks for years with all kinds of different receipts, but this time they got one Irish cobbler too many in the stew and ulceration set in. (Rest up, take your corners.) We have a lot of humans that will take a slap in the face just for peace sake. I'll say you are wrong. It's not progress. In other words, it's a crime for any normal man to allow any inferior man to slap him in the face, simply because the same inferior mind that makes him an inferior man, also tells him he is right, and he is foolish enough to believe it because he don't know any better. (Loosen up on your check rein.) When any reliable exhibitor engages his space and his name is on the table all set, Mr. Floor Manager don't move him, especially if you wear clothes like a man. If you do, put on your mittens, it's snowing outside.

A FEW WORDS ON FEEDING.

The past mean season has been a great lesson to all dahlia growers. You can plainly see that nature has something to say about growing them. Climatic conditions, within nature's power if she sees fit, will destroy or improve the situation. Don't throw this

knowledge away. Almost to a man you think you can't grow dahlias right unless you feed every few days. You are absolutely wrong. You can grow fine plants and nice flowers if you never feed any dahlia in blooming season. Very few growers really know enough about or when to feed a dahlia right. You pile it on, especially on woody plants that shouldn't have one ounce of feed. To feed a woody plant is like pouring oil on a fire. It is a natural condition, caused as a rule by extreme dryness and nature's imperfect law. To get a little closer to nature, I'll say it's the flexible membrane tissue grain fibres that have dried, closing in turn the channel of circulation. When this happens you are licked. Cut the stock to the ground and start a new healthy growth. Use plain water. Remember, don't feed any plant in your garden in extremely hot weather, unless you intend and do flood your farm. Extreme heat, high humidity and no rain is a perfect situation for woody plants, stunts and pests. Your plants are burning up. No water; you pile on feed. All wrong. Ninety in the shade, pests multiplying by the millions, on goes the poison, an overdose of arsenic or lead, which is a shock to any plant. Wrong again. In each case you generate more heat. Turn on the water, flood your garden, reduce the heat and you reduce your troubles. Pests don't multiply very fast in normal cool weather and very few plants go woody. There is more dahlia food value in water, cheap water, especially from a necessary view point, than any feed you can produce, but some of you have more money than brains. That is why you buy all the fertilizers on the market. You don't seem to know that one firm was pinched and found guilty for mixing pulverized rock in the fertilizer to make it heavy. No doubt some of you used it and you had fine luck. Pulverized cobblestones with a few dashes of balloon juice is extra nice for dahlias. It will produce any size flower you wish if you suck the balloon juice stopper long enough. (Roll over, it's raining.)

PROGRESS OF FOREIGN ADDITIONS NOT FLOWERS.

The dahlia show, like every other thing in the world, is changing. New growers, new ideas. Progress is what we are after, but there is a limit to all progress, especially quick over-night dreams. Be moderate; go slow. Don't go at it like a bull at a red bobtail shirt. Nice up-to-date baskets are coming in fast, velvet curtains, fancy decorations of all kinds produce some of the greatest dahlia exhibits ever put up in any show hall. All this up-to-the-minute stuff is figured out by our real classy growers that also produce and grow the best dahlias in the land. They have them in their gardens and at the show. Like every other new idea, some growers, not all, are trying to carry it too far. One grower in my

presence made this statement: "We don't allow at some of our shows dahlias shown any more in bottles." When asked why by writer, he said the public was easily fooled on the stem, or words to that effect. That seemed to be his main reason. Now, let me tell you it is just as easy to fool them in the basket (short and sweet). If the stem is not right it is wired or tied to handle of basket. Enough said. The trouble is like every other argumental matter, the exhibitors are fast joining the one-track variety. All you can see is baskets, curtains, fancy crockery. It's fine, one good step forward. A nice basket dressed in a flame of beauty of up-to-date blooms can't be beat. But why drop the short-stem exhibition of largest and best flowers at any show in fancy vases or bottles? They are just as necessary and can be used here and there in any exhibit to advantage. Some say they don't like the bottle. Very good. All you chaps that don't like the looks of the bottle listen. I know bottles are handy for kerosene, Jakey says so. All your nice baskets and curtains are classy, but how much class are they in an exhibition of buckets, umbrella stands, string-bean tubs, stove pipes, cedar trees, sea weed, birch bark, or any other old bush you dig up in the woods, trimmed with flowers. Do you think this up-to-the-minute, tall timber omelet have fancy bottles and vases beat? When you can produce tomorrow yesterday, I'll say yes today. One more new classy exhibit. Take one of the high, red paper, string bean tubs that would make a nice nail-keg, with six large flowers in the crotch of a three to five foot limb misrepresented for stem two inches thick, with all the laterals sawed off the course, old mean-looking foliage cupped and shaped almost good enough for a jazz bonnet. Is it a step forward? Yes, for the sake of something new, not a flower show. Why spoil the plant by cutting the long stock. Cut the stock two or three inches, pull a picket off the fence, wind some seaweed around it, glue the flower on end of picket, use the same tub, and I dare say the picket and the seaweed will answer the purpose in all its refinement class galore. I'll say, take the same six course flowers in nice short vases, decorated with the best of dahlia foliage, and you have produced a classy tubless situation worth looking at. (It's a long lane that has no ash barrel.)

COME AGAIN.

Gentlemen, stop, look, listen, especially those of you who are responsible for the grading. Percent figures that govern the largest and best sweepstake exhibits at all dahlia shows. The base meaning of sweepstake is at present one conglomeration of flowers, good, bad and indifferent, baskets, curtains, fancy crockery, pine and cedar trees, green tin and red paper, string bean tubs, foreign foliage of all kinds



and anything green that's movable in the woods. Now get me right. I am not knocking any of the foreign additions put up with taste that improve the situation, and it all can be used effectively in any exhibit with a little judgment, but here is where the real errors are made. You have become so enthused over the foreign additions, you seem to have forgotten it is a flower show and not a tub show. General effect is classed first in percentage. Any third or fourth rate grower can come in with a quantity of cheap varieties, cast-offs that have been dumped by real up-to-date growers, flowers mean and small, with the best of baskets, buckets, tubs, curtains, soap-boxes, every and any old thing to fill in, and he wins. The grower with by far the best quality up-to-the-minute flowers that ever were shown in any hall, with curtains, baskets and decorations arranged classy, is licked. Why? Simply because you have ignored quality of 200 of the best blooms for quantity of 500 of small cheap blooms. Judges, is it a square deal? Absolutely no. Are you living up to the noisy minute hot words that bounce off your tongue when you say quality and progress first, last, always? No. Has stage-fright changed your mind and produced a brain storm, which in turn interfered with your eyesight? Yes. Have you lost sight of the fact that you are judging quality flowers at a flower show? Yes. Now if we are going to have a quality flower show, trimmed and decorated with baskets and tubs, use a little common sense and give the lion's share of percentage to the grower with the best flowers, simply because it is a flower show. If you are so fond of the baskets and tubs to the extent where it is liable to impair your eyesight and judgment, I'll say let us have a large basket and tub show trimmed with flowers, the best decorated tub wins. First prize one bucket of soft soap; something for your neck. (Shine up.)

DAHLIA WORLD SIT UP AND LISTEN.

Have you any idea what a lot of unnecessary, uncalled for and unsolicited trouble you heap on the already bent shoulders of a commercial grower when you use the left foot of a hen in writing your address. You send in for a catalog. Think it over seriously, and use a pen for 1926. We can't afford to take too many chances with the eyes. Like the chap at church meeting, unfortunately a young lady walking overhead stepped into a weak spot and one leg came down through the plaster. The preacher grasping the situation in a second, says: "Low bridge, heads down; anyone who dare look up will lose the sight of both eyes." One man says: "I'll take a chance with one eye." Write your address plain please; the other eye is bent.



CALAMITY HOWLERS.

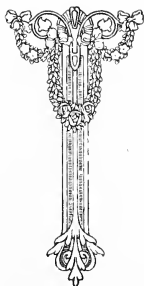
A few side lines for calamity howlers that are ballahooing always about their dahlia pains and troubles; unnecessarily so. Jane, I think your troubles are more mental than physical. You have lost all confidence in yourself and everyone else. You have forgotten the Creator that made you. He put you here for a purpose. Have you made the most of the situation? We all have troubles of our own, individually and collectively. Why bore the multitude? You are looking for too much perfection. You never entertain in your dreams that nature's laws control the situation and the way of the transgressor is hard. T. B. stunt is a joke with you, but remember, where there's smoke there's fire and cigarettes. Where there's life there's disease and lizzyettes. (Jane drop the hoop skirt.)

From one of our best growers: "I have grown all the best whites on the market, and World's Best White is THE best." I'll go him one better. I have grown all the best whites, and for an all-around dahlia, it is in a class by itself.

Very much pleased to tell the dahlia world that Eva Cole was one if not the best flower shown in the New York show, 1925.

From a New York grower in letter: "In the magazine article of outstanding varieties at the New York show, I was surprised no mention was made of Eva Cole, which, to my mind, was one of the most striking dahlias in the whole show."

Pleasing words from one of our very best and leading up-to-the-minute Massachusetts growers: "Your Eva Cole was the best flower at the New York show, 1925; large, heavy, 11 or 12 inch flower on a perfect stem." He also added: "I saw your Harry Sheldon, Jr., in all its glory; large, clean and handsome; one of the best blooms there at the Bronx, New York."





NEW CREATIONS FOR 1926

855 WHITE COURT (H. C.). One more new white. The world and the bride is looking for whites. Something new in the white line, a soft, sensitive, wavy, waxy, pure white hybrid cactus; most wonderful construction imaginable; very strong growing plant; a sensation at the Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., next door to White Court, President Coolidge's summer home; also in Boston and New York the best white shown in 1925. The greatest exhibition white ever produced. Tubers \$10.00 net; Plants \$5.00 net.

George Ray's New Creation for 1926.

VIOLA RAY (Dec.), new introduction by George Ray. To me this is one of the largest dahlias ever produced, the coloring violet-magenta purple with reverse silver sheen blend, closer in co-operation than the usual blending of said colors. The growth of plant is excellent; splendid foliage. I'll say it is one extra nice addition to any and all gardens. The flower is so heavy and large the stem won't hold them. Hence one great bargain. Tubers \$5.00 net; Plants \$2.50 net.

1926 Introduction by William Symonds.

MANATAUG (D.), a wonderful new decorative, a sure winner. The color a rich American Beauty rose crimson, slightly darker at center. Large flowers on great stems. Great cut flower and stands up well. At Brockton Fair, 1925, won two first prizes for best twelve and best six long stems. Said a prominent florist of 50 years' experience: "On Sept. 24, 1925, a vase of Manataug long stems were placed in my store, and on Sept. 28 they were in good condition." A new wonder and hard to beat.

Tubers \$5.00 net; Plants \$2.50 net.

107 LILY GRAND (H. D.), extra large, and best exhibition white I know.

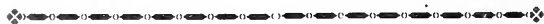
Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

130 BEN WILSON (D.), orange-red, gold tips, very large, free bloomer, one of the best.

Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.

131 PROXIE (H. D.), dark velvet red, maroon and garnet shades, great long stems.

Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.



- 184 **SOROSIS** (D.), my best red. I'll say the best on the market.. Tubers *\$1.50; Plants *\$1.00
- 196 **APEX** (D.), autumn buff shade, full heavy flower. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.
- 307 **WORLD'S BEST WHITE** (D.). Now I have produced about as near to perfection of plant, flower and stem as nature will allow. It just keeps full of large blooms all summer, with the best of stems. Can be grown 9 or 10 inches, 5 inches deep. Has won 10 First Prizes and has made a tremendous hit this season from coast to coast. You make one great mistake if you don't grow it. Tubers *\$4.00; Plants *\$2.00.
- 322 **MASSACHUSETTS FANCY** (D.), very odd yellow and red, wide petal, split ends. Market's best fancy. Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 341 **HARLAN** (D.), extra large yellow, fine plant and good stems on the Estelle Christy type; much better. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.
- 389 **ALICE LONG** (D.), yellow, a new odd petal, nicked very deep, making a very attractive flower, full, heavy and large. Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 394 **YELLOW GEM** (D.). Beat it if you can, for a yellow and white, great plant and stems. Short on stock. Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 410 **MAYOR FITZ** (D.). Now we have a real autumn shade, the highest centre dahlia grown. Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 417 **QUEEN OF WHITES** (H. C.), released. The Dahlia world has been waiting for eight years to get a bulb of this wonderful white that I never intended to sell. In all that time she never faltered, and showed better class last season than ever. With a change of mind I have decided to let it go before some dahlia bug breaks in and walks off with a clump. A very large full flower, perfectly constructed, free bloomer, strong growing plant, unsurpassed for exhibition qualities when cut, and I dare say the greatest pistillate ever put on the market, which means more than words. Don't wait too long, or you'll get left. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00..
- 433 **BOSTON WHITE** (D.) has proven to be one of the greatest whites I ever produced, improving with age, and the best white you will ever buy for the money. Pure white, large full flower, centre air-tight, great plant and stems. Try one; you can't lose. Tubers *\$3.00; Plants *\$1.50.
- 471 **CITY OF PEABODY** (H. C.), new deep wine shade, veined white, reverse of petals silver; a grand flower you can't afford to pass up. Stems and centre always good; extra large flower, full of expression; one of the classiest seedlings ever produced. (New.) Tubers *\$4.00; Plants *\$2.00.

12 *Thos. J. Murphy—Dahlia College*

- 472 **GEO. RAY** (H. D.), a clean bright yellow and red, extra large, heavy deep flower; can be grown 9 or 10 inches; don't sport; one of the best.
Tubers *\$3.00; Plants *\$1.50.
- 512 **MRS. C. FLOOD** (Dec.), the best real baby pink we have. In bud opening the color is white and gold and bleaches to pink when matured; the most delicate of all pinks.
Tubers *\$3.00; Plants *\$1.50.
- 531 **COFFEE CREAM** (D.), a new bronze coffee shade that demands attention in any garden. Stems good.
Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 562 **MARY CURTIN** (Dec.), has made one of the greatest hits of any dahlia I have ever produced. Why? Because it is the best and cleanest red and white tipped flower on the market. It can and has been grown 9 inches across, 5 inches deep, and the white tips were there. Five years old and never sported the white tips. Don't pass up Mary; if you do you'll be sorry.
Tubers *\$3.00; Plants *\$1.50.
- 567 **EVA COLE** (D.), unusually large, splendidly built, bright, clean, red and gold flower; naturally the largest grown flower to date. With no feeding of any kind I had quite a few 10-inch and better blooms this awfully dry, mean season. Under good care, weather and water, you will have to step some to beat it for quantity, quality and size.
Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.
- 622 **POLLYANNA M.** (D.), buff-yellow, suffused red; one of the largest dahlias grown; will produce more large blooms than any dahlia on the market; can be grown 9 inches across, 6 inches deep.
Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.
- 626 **DURANT** (Dec.). A new four-year-old seedling with extra strong growing qualities. The large blooms are held high on the best of stems. Color is of the autumn shade, a combination of yellow, buff, salmon and gold, that popular shade everybody likes. Fine cut and exhibition flower.
Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.
- 634 **GEO. S. HARVEY** (D.). I'll say you will have to go some to beat this purplish-magenta flower, full of quality and class, suffused white. One of the handsomest combinations you wish to see and getting better and larger with age. Very large, deep flower. It is up to you to grow it 10 inches; the goods are there.
Tubers *\$5.00; Plants *\$2.50.
- 684 **SOROSIS SOUVENIR** (H. D.), very large, strongly built flower, on long stems; the kind you all like; the sex that don't show a seed center. The past season has proven it to be the best yellow on the market.
Tubers *\$3.00; Plants *\$1.50.

- 698 **AMETHYST SUPREME** (H. C.). Something new in formation of petal and color, going on the market in 1925 for the first time. Picture a very delicate amethyst shade, fine built flower on long stems; nice high plant with the very best of foliage, large and full, of the mule hybrid family, air-tight centre, always more petals coming. The construction of the flower is new and attracts your attention. The sensation of my dahlia college all season.

- 699 **MAHOGANY (C.).** A real American Cactus, dark, velvet-red, with long, narrow cactus petals borne on the end of great stiff stems. One of the rich red shades that makes the sun dance.

- 707 WINTER TIME (C.). The best American white cactus ever produced. The world has been looking for a good white cactus, and here you have it. Fine, strong plant, great stems, flower always looking at you. Fine cut flower and great for exhibition; also, one more good point, the greatest of foliage to carry to the show.

- 710 **E. M. FITZGERALD (H. C.).** A pleasing tone of cerise shade with yellow collar at base of flower, extra good stems, full of class and a perfect built flower. You should grow it to know its beauty. Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.

- 717 SUNLIT** (Dec.). A new tango buff shade, reverse of petal Turkish red that appeals to you as soon as you see it. The flower is built like J. A. B. Parker, plant much stronger and higher and better; colorings of the famous Turkish rugs.

- 739 HARRY SHELDON JR. (D.).** Here again Nature has been good to me in producing what I think is the cleanest, classiest, largest and handsomest pink and white flower, regardless of class, ever put on the market. I will not be a bit surprised to see one 12 inches across, 5 or 6 inches deep, next season. Petals are 2 inches wide, extra long, and the flower opens very fast, long before the back gives way, which means the greatest of all exhibition flowers. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

- 747 SAMAR** (D. P.). Here we have something odd in the shape of a very large Decorative Peony. Extra large and loose built, white and lavender-pink flowers. Everybody seems to want something new. Here you have it. An unusually pretty flower; fine for exhibition.

- 777 **LILLIAN A. LITTLE** (H. C.). I suppose I can safely say that this new delicate white, violet-blue, orchid hybrid cactus is the prettiest, largest and best of its class ever produced. She showed great class last season and created a large amount of attention in garden and at the shows; in fact, it was one of my best exhibition flowers.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

- 779 **CITY OF LAWRENCE** (D.). Here we have one of the best yellow decoratives ever produced. Extra large, full, deep flower, on good stems, free bloomer, strong growing plant, great exhibition and cut flower. What more can you ask for.

Tubers *\$5.00; Plants *\$2.50.

- 810 **REBECCA ATKINSON** (C.). One more American cactus that will make you sit up and take a peek. A perfect spike petal, intense pink flower, with white centre. One great cut and exhibition variety; the greatest bargain yet.

Tubers *\$2.00; Plants *\$1.00.

- 862 **JIM GEORGE** (Dec.). I have produced quite a few reds, and thought I had about reached the limit of velvet texture of fascinating color in red when I put Sorosis on the market six years back. But no. My new dark garnet velvet seedling is the best ever. It's no use for me to try and tell you about the velvet sheen cast of this beautiful built flower, with great stems, plant and foliage; all flowers blooming freely above the plant. You will have to see it yourself to really appreciate what I call the cream of all dark reds.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

- 863 **M. F. HEAPHY** (Dec.). Here is a flower that I think will be the sensation of the season, taking into consideration all twelve points: bulbs, stock, foliage, plant, stem, flower, free bloomer, color, exhibition and cut flower, lasting qualities, and don't burn. When you originate a dahlia that will stand up under the acid test of said twelve points, it means you have come about as near to perfection as nature's law will allow. I had twenty in a row of this wonderful dahlia, with shades of magenta, wine, maroon and royal purple flowers, 6 to 8 inches across and 5 inches deep, on the best of stems, plants full of flowers all season, and I dare say it made more noise than any row on the farm. All you could hear was, "Come folks and see this one." Don't pass up this enormous California Jack Rose in dahlia form. While they last Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

- 868 **MARY FERGUSON** (D.). Here we have one of the prettiest tri-colored dahlias on the market. Color, orange, yellow and white tips; free bloomer and very attractive flower. White always there. Don't sport; medium-size flowers. The best bargain in the catalog.

Tubers \$3.00 net; Plants \$1.50 net.

Tubers \$2.00; plants \$1.00.

Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

Tubers \$10.00 net; Plants \$5.00 net.

Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Tubers \$2.00; Plant \$1.00

Plants only \$7.50



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EMMA MARIE (H. C.). A very intense pink with white centre; quite a free bloomer on stiff stems; great garden and cut flower.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

EASTERN STAR (D.). This is a wonderful large heavy, well formed flower; soft shadings of real old gold, on good stems.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

ETHEL M. (H. C.). Here is a very pretty combination of amarant pink and white centre; nice built flower with long petals; one you will be proud of when you see it in your garden.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

EMPEROR (D.). Why not grow a good dahlia that made a lot of noise when it first appeared on the market and is quite noisy at present. Color, deep magenta and maroon shades.

Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

ELIZA CLARK BULL (D.). California's best white, that has made quite a hit on this side of the U. S. A. Medium high and a free bloomer, of good heavy, close built flower, with the best of stems, and one you need in your garden.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

ETHEL F. T. SMITH (H. D.). A very light cream primrose, swell built flower, on stiff stems, calling for its share of attention always. Tubers \$1.00

ESTHER OF HAV-A-LOOK (D.). Here we have an extra large, fine built flower on great stems; the nearest to cerise in color of any dahlia grown with silver reverse. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

ELSIE OLIVER (H. C.). Again we have one of the handsomest dahlias on the market; delicate shades of pink and cream. Tuber \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

ESTHER HUNT (H. C.). Bright orange, large and full, very attractive flower on good stems; excellent for exhibition and something odd in color shade. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

ELSIE DANIELS (H. C.). The color of this wonderful dahlia is a pale orchid shade on the outer petals, which are long and shaggy; the centre white. A nice built flower on good stems.

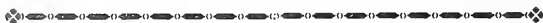
Plants only \$2.50.

EVA WILLIAMS (D.). An exhibition Decorative of amethyst color with slight silver shadings, full centre, upright and rigid, free bloomer, stems good. Tubers \$3.50; Plants \$1.75.

ELLINOR VANDERVEER (D.). Rose pink, handsome large flower that grows on two-foot stems well above the foliage. Plants only \$3.75.

ELBERON BEAUTY (D.). As its name indicates, a beauty. A large exhibition of soft apricot, shading to a darker tone toward the centre; perfect stem and excellent keeper.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.



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FIRELIGHT (D.). Beautiful large flower, carried on stiff stems, base yellow, petals tipped red; one of the new creations that have come to stay.

Plants only \$3.75.

GOLDEN RULE (D.). A very large deep orange-red that made quite a hit. Extra good for exhibition.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

GLADYS SHERWOOD (H. D.). One of our classy whites; very large and extra fine garden flower.

Tubers \$1.00.

GENERAL McRAE (D.). Apricot buff, suffused with gold; reverse a light coral red. The flowers are very large perfect type, held erect on stiff stems. This is one of the best decoratives grown.

Plants only \$3.75.

GRENADIER (D.). A purplish maroon and silver reverse flower that is somewhat unique; held aloft on good long stems. A dahlia that will improve your garden. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

GRACE SHERMAN (D.). A new creation of much merit. Delicate pink, shading to cream, with light orange in center. Large and full on good stems. One of Meachen & Sherman's sensations. While they last, Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00.

GORGEOUS (Peo.). Yellow and bright scarlet Peony with the best of extra long stems. I'll say they don't make them any better.

Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

HIS MAJESTY (D.). Bright scarlet and one of our latest new reds that hit well last season. Extra large flowers with good stems. Plants only \$3.75.

HAVE-A-LOOK QUEEN OF AUTUMN (H. D.). Autumn shade with rose pink predominating. Flowers are nicely constructed and large good growth of plant and free bloomer; stems good.

Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00.

ISLAM PATROL (H. C.). Very dark velvet, scarlet tipped heavily with yellow. Well recommended.

Tubers \$3.50; Plants \$1.75.

ISABEL MASSON (Peo.). A delightful blend of flesh pink, old rose and gold. Blooms freely and large on the best of stems.

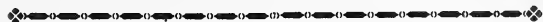
Plants only \$1.75.

JERSEY BEAUTY (D.). A real pink of intense richness; nice full flower center and stem always good. Very free bloomer and extra nice cut flower.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

JERSEY JEWEL (D.). In this flower we have a very nice shade of mellow pink. A large long-petaled flower, full of class and beauty.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.



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Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00.

Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

Plants only \$1.25.

Tubers \$1.00.

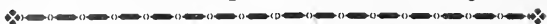
Tubers \$1.00.

Plants only \$2.50.

Plants only \$1.50.



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MRS. EDWARD TAYLOR (D.). One of the best of last season's new creations. Color a wonderful cerise, magenta shades; giant flowers on perfect stems. Plants only \$5.00.

MRS. ELEANOR MARTIN (D.). Deep mulberry and rose dahlia that blooms in the limelight always, and it is a shame to sell it so cheap. Plants only \$2.50.

MRS. J. K. ALLEN (H. D.). A light cardinal red, with buff yellow reverse; strong stems, holding flower erect. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

MASSACHUSETTS (D.). A new creation of great size and depth. Full, heavy, large flower; colors, magenta, wine and garnet, or pansy purple; a very pleasing combination. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

NICHU (H. C.). The market seems to be shy on good yellows. Here is a new yellow king, free bloomer on good stems. Plants only \$5.00.

WOAH (H. C.). A large odd shade of maroon; heavy, deep, ball shape flower on long stems. Plants only \$2.50.

OUR COUNTRY (D.). A very attractive purple and white, fancy colored flower, that was released a few years back at \$50.00. 1926. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

OLIVE REED (D.). Here we have one more nice yellow you don't want to pass up. A remarkable mammoth dahlia; great exhibition flower. Plants only \$5.00.

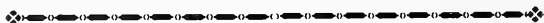
PRESIDENT WILSON (D.). This is one of the standard varieties; a fine dark wine maroon, with white tips. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

PAUL MICHAEL (D.). One of our best golden bronze shades; extra large and hard to beat. Tubers \$1.00.

PAUL REVERE (D.). In this flower we have one of the best ever produced. A bright crimson, full heavy flower, with fine habit and good stems. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

PRIDE OF DAHLIADEL (D.). A massive flower of great depth, similar to Grizzly, much better. Tubers \$3.00; Plant \$1.50.

PREMIER CLEMENCEAU (H. C.). This is a very pretty dahlia of lemon yellow and white, one of the handsomest flowers we have. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.



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POLAR SNOW (D.). Judge Mariens white that had a hard time before it was released. Here at last. A nice quality white and a good addition to your garden. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00.

POP STEWART (Giant Dec.). This is a remarkable flower of great size. Color, lilac pink. Won First Prize for largest flower in Montclair Show, New Jersey. We recommend it as one of the finest dahlias in existence, with great stems. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

PARADISE (H. C.). Creamy old rose suffused with gold, so blended as to give a striking brown tone; with good stems. Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

REINZE (D.). Large, bold yellow and red flower, held above the foliage on good stems. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

RADIO (D.). A 1924 sensation that held up in good shape. A very large attractive red and yellow flower with good stems. One of our best. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

ROBERT TREAT (D.). American Beauty rose shade that made a lot of noise for 1925. Also a prize winner 1923 and 1924. One nice start for Bob. Plants only \$2.50.

RODMAN WANAMAKER (D. P.). The Peacock dahlia growers claim it is the largest ever produced. I'll say it is classy enough for any garden. Large delicate bronze yellow and pink. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

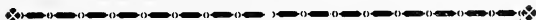
RALPH BLODGETT (D.). A very pretty tri-color combination of amber, pink and white. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

ROSA NELL (D.). A well established variety. Color, magenta rose shade on the best of stems. Tubers \$1.00.

ROOKWOOD (D.). A standard variety that grows well withal; a fine rose shade with stems good. Plants only \$1.50.

ROLLO BOY (H. C.). This dahlia won First Prize for the largest and best dahlia at the Palace Hotel Show, 1924. Color, a delicate amber, shading to old gold. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

ROMAN EAGLE (Dec.). One real bronze shade Decorative; unusually large and deep. 1925 was a banner season for this great flower. Tubers \$5.00 net; Plants \$2.50 net.



SISKIYOU (H. D.). One of the largest dahlias ever produced. The coloring is a combination of yellow buff and watermelon pink; a swell flower for up-to-date growers.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

SANHICAN'S BLUEBIRD (D.). If I remember right, we have three Bluebirds on the market, all good singers, but this is the only one that hums. All summer she'll hum away the blues. Why be blue with a pink necktie? Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

SUSAN G. TEVIS (D.). This is one fine dahlia, which will produce an abundance of flowers all season. A beautiful shade of lilac with a bluish sheen. Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

SHUDOW'S LAVENDER (D.). No doubt it is the purest lavender on the market.

Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

SUN MAID (D.). 1925 California sensation that made good here in the East. One of the largest and best. Color, orange-red. Plants only \$5.00.

SUNNY SOUTH (H. C.). Clear bright yellow; large, nice-built flower with a good stem; strong dwarf grower. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

THE BASHFUL GIANT (D.). One of the largest dahlias ever produced, with a nice habit of producing slowly just so many nice large flowers of apricot and bronze. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00.

TILLAMOCK (D.). Canary yellow; large, wide, waxy petals; vigorous grower; extra large flowers on good stems. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

TALISMAN (H. C.). Dark, velvety red with a brown tone reverse tan; very attractive; large, good form, good stems. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.

TRENTONIAN (D.). A giant Decorative. The color is that of an Indian skin, a wonderful blending of old gold amber and coppery bronze. A well lasting cut flower on extra good stems.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75.

THE BANDIT (H. C.) A beautiful coloring of spectrum red with backs of petals a buff yellow and bright yellow at base. Scored second in a field of 143 entries at Storrs, Conn. I'll say Bandy is some shot. He can hit the bullseye in any garden. Just give him a chance.

Tubers \$20.00; Plants \$10.00.

UNCLE SAM (D. P.). An extra large orange-buff, with great stems, and one you need in your garden. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50.



Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50.

Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00.

Plants only \$2.50.

Plants only \$3.75.

40 cents each; \$4.00 a dozen.

A fine collection of pompons that are coming in fast, because they last so long when cut.

ALWINE, white and lavender.

AMBER QUEEN, amber buff shades.

ANNICE, lilac purple.

BRUNETTE, red and white.

BLINK, new purple, great pompon.

CATHERINE, yellow.

DONAVAN, white and lavender edge.

DR. KNABBE, white and purple.

ELFIN, pale primrose.

ELEGANTA, pink.

FAIRY QUEEN, yellow and pink.

FARRY, buff yellow.

FRAU HENECHÉ, purplish maroon.

HIGHLAND MARY, variegated white and red.

LITTLE JENNIE, buff and red.

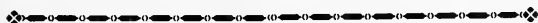
LEIDA, small white and pink.

MADLINE, maroon.

NORA, fine yellow and crimson red.

SNOWCLAD, best white.

SNICKER, dark red maroon, almost black.



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If you don't see what you want, ask. I may have it or I can get it for you. It won't cost you any more than the market price.

All varieties with number are my own production.

Regular shipping time is April and May. Tubers shipped before at your own risk.

For Tubers or Plants— $\frac{1}{4}$ off for one and two, $\frac{1}{3}$ for three, four and five; and for six or more $\frac{1}{2}$ off for one variety to trade, except where it says Net.

Although I keep a close watch and destroy all diseased stock and multiply healthy stock only, yet my bulbs are not perfect. I'll make good any wrong.

A. R. Baker's New California Creation.

IRIANA (D.). To me this is the darkest of all dahlias; the dark maroon tone is a step nearer to black. Mr. Baker says he has grown it 10 inches in California. I grew it last season and it is one nice flower on perfect stems.

Tubers \$5.00 net; Plants \$2.50 net.



